

To-day's
Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL,
MESSRS. DALLAS AND MUSGRAVE'S
THEATRICAL SEASON.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
THE WORLD RENOWNED DRAMA
"THE SILVER KING."
(Special Scenery painted for this great production.)

NOTICE.—By kind permission of the officers, the Band of H.M.S. *Pictorial* will play the incidental music under the Blon of Mr. W. Fleming Vallance.

WEDNESDAY, April 12th,
Grand Production of
MARK MELLEOR'S
FUNNIEST OF FUNNY FARCE
COMEDIES
"TURNED UP."

PRICES.—\$5, \$2 and \$1.
Soldiers and Sailors (in uniform) half-price to back seats only.

Box Plan at the ROBINSON PIANO CO.

NOTICE.—A special train will run a quarter of an hour after fall of curtain every evening.
W. H. BROWN, Business Manager.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [424a]

CEYLON AND INDIAN TEAS.

JUST LANDED.

A FRESH Consignment of PURE CEYLON and INDIAN TEAS of the best quality.

The QUALITY of these Teas will SPEAK FOR ITSELF.
A trial Order solicited.

H. RUTTONJEE,
13 & 15, D'Almeida Street,
Hongkong, and
21 & 22, Elgin Road, Kowloon.
Hon Kong, 8th April, 1899. [478a]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI
The Company's Steamship

"HAICHUNG,"
Captain Hodgins, will be despatched for the above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 11th instant, at daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [481a]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

The Company's Steamship

"MARQUIS BACQUEHEM,"
Captain G. Wallis, will leave for the above places on FRIDAY, the 14th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SANDERSON, WHEELER & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [477a]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA.

The Company's New Screw Steamship

"DIAMANTE,"
Captain G. A. Taylor, will be despatched for the above port, on FRIDAY, the 14th instant, at 4 P.M.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Excellent Accommodation provided by this Steamer. It is fitted throughout with Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Manager.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [480a]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Steamship

"LIV,"
will be despatched for the above port, on or about the 17th April.

To be followed by the
S.S. "UNDAUNTED,"
Sailing about the 10th May.

For Freight, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [450a]

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of CARGO per Steamship "GAELIC."

The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [2]

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBOROUGH, ANTWERP, LONDON, COLOMBO AND SINGAPORE.

The Company's Steamship

"KAWACHI MARU,"
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, being landed and placed at their risk into the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before Noon, TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 15th instant, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

All ship-damaged packages must be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on FRIDAY, the 14th instant, and TUESDAY, the 18th instant, both days at 10 A.M.

All claims must reach the undersigned before the 10th instant, or they will not be recognised.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [479a]

Intimation.



A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

PORTS
(For Invalids and General Use.)

B.—VINTAGE, superior quality.

Red Capsule \$14.40

C.—FINE OLD VINTAGE, superior quality, Black

Seal Capsule 16.20

D.—VERY FINE OLD VINTAGE

extra superior, Violet

Capsule (Old Bottled) 20.40

Port after removal should be rested for a month before use. Wine required for drinking at once should be ordered to be decanted at the Dispensary before being sent out. These Wines are too favourably known to need comment.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

BIRTH.

At Kong Vista, Lisburn Road, Belfast on the 19th of February, 1899, the wife of Dr. F. L. BRADLEY, Jinjow, Manchuria, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 3rd of April, 1899, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. Newcomb, JAMES ARTHUR PRYOR to LUCY MARGARET MCINNES, eldest daughter of H. A. McInnes, I. M. Customs. No cards.

DEATH.

At Nanjing, on the 21st of March, 1899, HANNAH ROSS, of the Society of Friends, and for over six years a nurse at the London Hospital.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1899.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

LONDON, April 6th.

The *Figaro* continues to publish depositions taken in the Criminal Chamber of the Cour de Cassation. General Rogot has given in detail several very strong points against Dreyfus and strongly insisted that the items mentioned in the *Borderline* were only known to the officers of the department in which Dreyfus worked.

It is officially stated that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have testified that the German and Italian Ambassadors and their attaches have denied all dealings with Dreyfus. M. Bertulus, the examining magistrate, who interrogated Col. Henry regarding Col. Picquart's charges against Major Esterhazy, deposed that Col. Henry declined to answer whether Major Esterhazy was the author of the *Borderline* and making a scene, implored M. Bertulus to consider the honour of the army.

THE GERMAN EXPEDITION IN SHANTUNG.

TAIPEICHANG, Shantung, April 3rd.

Three Germans were attacked seventy li east of Ichoufu on the 22nd ultimo; they fired in self-defence, killed two of their assailants. On the 29th ult., the Germans occupied Yinchoo, and have also sent a punitive expedition to the scope of the above attack, intending to burn two villages. Ichoufu is quiet, but the officials are unfriendly.

THE LANDING OF GERMAN TROOPS AT JICHIAO.

PEKING, April 3rd.

The Tsungli Yamen sent yesterday instructions to Li Hai-huan, Chinese Minister at Berlin, to ask the intentions of the German government regarding the landing of a body of armed men on the Shantung coast, south of Kiaochow. — *N. C. D. News.*

(From Japanese Papers.)
THE GOVERNMENT AND LAND-HOLDING RIGHTS.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.
TOKYO, March 25th.

The Government appreciates the necessity of making a special declaration regarding the right of superficies and the hire or rent of land by foreigners and foreign legal persons, and a draft of the proposed declaration is shortly to be submitted to the Throne by Viscount Aoki, the Minister for Foreign Affairs. It will then be announced by Imperial Ordinance as a necessary declaration before the new Treaties come into force.

As already stated, the provisions of the law relating to superficies and the hire or rent of land by foreigners and foreign legal persons will be declared by Imperial Ordinance.

As the acquisition or transfer of foreigners' real estate, which has previously been in the

hands of the Consular and diplomatic representatives, will be dealt with by the Japanese authorities on the new Treaties coming into force, Mr. Hida, a Counsellor in the Foreign Office, has been ordered to visit Yokohama, Osaka, Kobe and Nagasaki to make the necessary investigations in the Settlements of the places.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

APPLICATION FOR AN ISLAND.

TOKYO, March 25th.

The boundary between the Russian and Chinese spheres in Manchuria and the Liaoting peninsula has not yet been delimited. Russia has applied for Myo-tao, an island at the mouth of the Pechili Gulf, but the Viceroy, of Shingking has declined to grant the application, on the ground that the island belongs to the Shantung province and is not under his jurisdiction.

THE SUCHOW AFFAIR.

PEKING, March 25th.

With regard to the Suchow disturbance, in which a Japanese was arrested and ill-treated by Chinese police, the Japanese demands for redress have been conceded. The president of the Suchow Foreign Office and the police constables have been dismissed, and the Government will pay an indemnity. The Governor-General of Kiangsu has prohibited the officials under him from arresting Japanese even outside the settlement limit.

RUSSIA AND KOREA.

SEOUL, March 25th.

The Privy Councilors who opposed the grant of a whaling concession to Russian subjects have been released from their offices.

THE FRENCH NAVY.

TOKYO, March 25th.

A Saigon dispatch of the 24th inst. to the French Legation states that during the debate on the Naval Estimates in the Chamber of Deputies, M. Lockroy, the Minister for the Navy, announced that measures for the increase of the Marines and Artillery in the Navy would shortly be introduced.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

THE ALLEGED TERMS OF THE UNDERSTANDING.

TOKYO, March 28th.

In reference to the understanding between Great Britain and Russia, the *Chukai Shogyo Shimposho* states that Great Britain has approved of the extension of Russian influence in Manchuria, and in return Russia has assented to the grant of certain concessions to Great Britain relating to the Indian boundary and Persia.

RUSSIA AND KOREA.

SEOUL, March 28th.

As a result of an audience which the Russian Minister has had with the Emperor, the Korean Government has recommended to the Throne the advisability of granting a concession of the three whaling stations applied for by the Russians, and this was sanctioned by the Emperor yesterday.

RUSSIAN CONCESSIONS IN KOREA.

SEOUL, March 28th.

The Korean Government has approved of an agreement to lease to a Russian company plots of land not exceeding 700 feet in length and 370 feet in width at the ports of Ulsan (Kyeongsang-do), Sinsih (Kangwon-do) and Chingpo (Hankyung-do), for work connected with whaling, at a rental of \$150 per annum.

In addition the company will pay a tax of \$20 for each whale captured, and \$100 a month to the Customs. The term of lease is 12 years.

PROPOSED KOREAN LOAN FROM RUSSIA.

SEOUL, March 29th.

The Korean Government proposes to raise a loan of 3 million yen from Russia, and negotiations are now in progress through the Russian Minister.

RUSSIAN ENTERPRISE IN CHINA.

TOKYO, March 29th.

The colliery at Gwoboten (near Newchwang), where operations will shortly be commenced by the Russians, will be worked in the name of a Chinese syndicate with a capital of 300,000 taels, of which 90,000 taels will be subscribed by the Chinese and 210,000 taels by Russians. Russia is granted the privilege of working in partnership with Chinese all the coal mines within 30 Chinese miles on either side of the Russian railway line through Liaoning.

THE FRANCO-ITALIAN COMMERCIAL TREATY.

TOKYO, March 29th.

A report from the Japanese Consul at Lyons dated the 13th ult. states that the new Franco-Italian Treaty has passed the Italian Chambers. It was arranged that the Treaty should go into force immediately in both countries. The French Government has announced that from February 28th the lowest rate of Customs Tariff shall be applied to all Italian goods with the exception of raw silk and silk goods.

AFFAIRS AT PEKING.

PEKING, March 23rd.

It is believed in diplomatic circles that as Germany is in alliance with Italy, she will not interfere with Italy's action in China, should Italy attempt, however, to enforce her demands by threats, it is probable Germany will take the same action as England and intervene.

The Italian demand on Sanmun Bay is in a state of abeyance, and quietude again reigns. The departure of Sir Claude Macdonald may be taken as evidence of peace.

Negotiations are in progress between the German Minister and the Chinese Government in regard to the Chinkiang railway.

(Telegrams from the French Legation.)
THE FRENCH AND LAKE CHAD.

SAIGON, March 26th.

The Fourreau Mission of exploration arrived yesterday in Algiers from Lake Chad, in an excellent condition.

MADAME DREYFUS FINED.

SAIGON, March 26th.

The Court of Cassation has rejected the application of Madame Dreyfus, challenging three Councilors, and has sentenced her to a fine of 100 francs.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says.—On the 8th at 11.40 a.m., Barometric changes are slight. The high pressure area remains central over China, with moderate gradients and fresh monsoon on the coast, and strong monsoon in the N. part of the China Sea. FORECAST:—Moderate N. and N.E. winds; fair.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Annual Dinner of the Hongkong Football Club will be held to-night.

The Eleventh Club Race of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club will take place to-morrow. Course: from Police Pier round North Fairway Buoy, to starboard, round mark boat off Lyceum, to starboard, and back to Police Pier, 12 miles.

THE Japan Railway Company has decided to raise its passenger fares, and has applied to the Minister of Communications for approval.

We are informed that the directors of the Yangtze Insurance Association Limited will recommend a dividend of 10% for last year.

THE Band of the Hongkong Regiment will play the following programme of music in the grounds of the Officers' Mess, Kowloon to-morrow, commencing at 4.30 p.m.:

1.—March "Lobelia Blue." Yurba.
2.—Waltz "Anheila." Erellia.
3.—Reminiscences of Scotland. Goldfrey.
4.—Quadrille "Freddie." Strasser.
5.—Song "Loreley." Nevada.
6.—Song "Harum Scarum." Cassidy.
7.—Song "Glad Save the Queen."

AN extraordinary rifle accident occurred in the Bangalore city station quarters, which resulted in the death of Driver Mulleneux, Southern Mahratta Railway, aged 29. He was shooting crows in his compound with an old Martini. The cartridges were loaded with shot. One of them exploded accidentally while he was closing the breech and the contents lodged in his stomach. He was removed to the hospital where he died in 24 hours. The deceased was an old volunteer and a good shot.

THE appeal made by the two Chinese who were recently sentenced to one year's imprisonment by the Yokohama Chihō Saibansho for smoking opium on board a vessel in Yokohama harbour has now been heard. The Court of Appeal, after hearing all the evidence, and calling witness for the defence whose testimony had been refused by the Yokohama Chihō Saibansho, acquitted Ma Cheong-on, one of the men, owing to the lack of evidence, but upheld the judgement of one year's imprisonment against the other man.

WE are well aware that American journalistic feats are past all understanding, but we must certainly give the current number of the American Review of Reviews the credit of heading the list of enterprising publications. In an illustrated article headed "Philippine Types and Characteristics" appears a reproduction of a photograph entitled "A Country Residence of the Higher Class Philippine Planter in Luzon." The illustration is a remarkably good one but unfortunately the building depicted is not the residence of a Philippine planter nor is it in Luzon. It happens to be the well known Chinese joss house at Causeway Bay, Hongkong.

THE following edicts were issued on the 31st ultimo:—Tsai Hsin, Prince of Chuang, is appointed Commander of the Guard and Comptroller of the Yunglu Palace; Chin Chi, Prince of Ké Ching, is appointed to a similar post over the Wuying Throne-hall, and Prince Pu Lu over the Middle Throne-hall.—Pang Hungwen is appointed Vice-Director of the Office of Transmission (of Imperial decrees, etc.).—Tsao Hung-hsun is appointed Taitai of the Yen-Tung Intendency, Yunnan province.—In response to the laudatory recommendations of the Generalissimo Jung Lu on the perfect discipline and effectiveness of the New Army Corps under General Yuan Shih-kai, near Tientsin, the said General is hereby handed to the Board for determination of extraordinary rewards. He is also empowered to name for promotion his best officers, as a token of the Imperial approval.—*N. C. D. News.*

ACCORDING to the *Universal Gazette* Peking officialdom has been recently thrown into considerable excitement over the sudden and mysterious arrest of one Hsi, a second-class Secretary of the Board of Punishments, by a squad of Imperial Guardsmen. The latter, it is stated, made the arrest at daybreak of the 22nd ultimo and threw the man into the prison of the *yamen* of which he was a Secretary, without giving any reason for the act except that "the Empress Dowager would like to see the prisoner." Many rumours are floating about as to the reason for the sudden arrest but the most likely one is that Hsi, owing to his having been the medium between the Italian Minister and the Chinese Government in the matter of obtaining loans from Italians for the opening of mines, etc., in the interior of China, has been made the scapegoat of the Empress Dowager's wrath as "having been the root of all the trouble with Italy." Others claim that Hsi had been found to be in the pay of the Italians to spy upon and report the result of every Cabinet Council held since the commencement of the recent trouble about Sanmun Bay. At all events, judging from the strict way in which the prisoner, Hsi, is guarded, the charges against him must be very grave and it is feared that he may be summarily decapitated after a secret trial.

Baron Nakajima expired on 28th ult. at Oiso at the age of 53. Though his importance has dwindled year after year toward the end of this life, there were times when he cut a prominent figure in the political development of modern Japan. Belonging to the Tosa clan, he was called to serve in the new Government soon after the Restoration. As Governor of the Kanagawa Province to which office he was appointed in 1874, he was greatly esteemed both by foreigners and Japanese for his judicious administration. In 1876, he was appointed a member of the Senate which was then acting as a Legislative Council. It was, however, at the time of the birth of political parties which followed the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion that he attained the climax of fame and influence. He resigned office in 1880 and joined the Liberal party of which he was elected Vice-President. The honour of being the first President of the House of Representatives fell upon him at the opening of the Diet; but in this exalted position, he rather failed to meet the expectation of his political friends. Not long afterwards, he withdrew from Parliamentary life, and entered the diplomatic service, representing this country at the Court of Rome from 1892 to 1893. He was appointed member of the House of Peers in 1894, and the Baronage was conferred on him in 1897.

AT the Magistrate's this morning Hugh Jones, a private in the Welsh Fusiliers ("A" company, No. 4542), was charged with stealing a watch, valued at between \$2 and \$3, from a shop at 154, Queen's Road. He pleaded guilty.

Complainant said at nine o'clock last night he was standing at the door when defendant came up to him and asked him to show him the watch produced. He took it out of the case and handed it to defendant, who ran away with it. He chased him to an hotel and called a constable to arrest him.

P. C. Macdonald (75) said the previous witness pointed defendant out to him. He followed him into the Globe Hotel and searched him but could not find the watch. On the way to the Police Station defendant said he had the watch and pulled it out of his stocking. Defendant was the worse for drink at the time but was capable of understanding what he did. He admitted having been convicted before of larceny.

Defendant now said he had not been convicted before, and that he did not remember telling the constable he had been.

He was sentenced to a month's hard labour.

MESSRS. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts in their *Weekly Share Report* state:—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have been placed to a small extent at 271 and 270 per cent. premium and close with sellers at 269 per cent. premium. Nationals are enquired for at \$21. Marine Insurances.—China Traders have been placed at \$62. There is no business to report in other stocks under this heading.

Fire Insurances.—Hongkong Fire have been negotiated at \$105 and \$207 and close with sellers at the latter rate. China Fires have declined to \$81 sales. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macau Steamboats have improved their position and have been placed at advancing rates up to 220. Indo China have changed hands to a considerable extent at \$69. Douglas Steamships are again easier and are offering at \$17. Star Ferries are in demand at \$13. Refineries.—China Sugars have been sold at \$172 and \$171. Luzons have been negotiated at \$49. Mining.—Punjoms have been done at \$5.25 and are now wanted at \$5.50. Queen Mines are enquired for at 60 cents. Jelebus have been fixed at \$83. Olives have been sold at \$3 and are steady. Raubs are quiet at \$54. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue in request and have been booked at 330 per cent. premium. Kowloon Wharf shares are a shade easier and are obtainable at \$38. Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have fixed at \$79 and \$78. Humphreys' Estate have been off the market at \$9. China Providents have been in demand and have been placed at \$76. Hongkong Hotels are quiet at \$76. Cotton Mills.—We have heard of no business in stocks under this heading.

Mineral.—Green Island Cement have again come into demand and have advanced to \$23 with only small sales. A. S. Watson have been done on a fair extent at \$134 and \$144. Gas have been booked at \$111 and \$112.

THIS other night Inspector Bleth visited the opium divans at 162, Queen's Road Central and 9, Graham Street and found there more people than the places were licensed for, there being 72 in one case where the limit was 11 and 71 in the other where the limit was 13. The offenders were brought before Mr. Sercombe Smith yesterday and each fined \$50.

A PEKING telegram received by Shanghai, mandarin states that H.E. Li Hung-chang, arrived at the capital from the Yellow River on the 1st instant and had a special audience of the Empress Dowager on the 2nd. The Empress Dowager treated H.E. with great consideration giving him a stool to sit on, beneath the Throne, after he had performed the usual obeisances.

CHITPORE, near the district gaol, was the scene early the other morning of a terrible tragedy, says the *Rangoon Times*. A sorter on the R.M.S., by name Ram Dayal Tewari, attacked Badri Pershad, another sorter, with a sharp knife and cut his head clean off from the shoulders. The murderer was immediately arrested, and police investigation is going on. The cause of quarrel is unknown.

WE would call the attention of our readers to Simon's Waxwork Museum, which is really well worth a visit. Some excellent figures are to be seen and a capital diorama of interesting views as well as curiosities of all descriptions. The fact that the whole show is entirely free from the least suspicion of coarseness or vulgarity and is both amusing and instructive should go far towards recommending it to the attention of the public.

THE *N. C. D. News* is sorry to learn that Mr. U. K. Cheng who has ably filled the difficult post of magistrate of the Mixed Court for the past twelve months, has at last received definite instructions from Viceroy Liu appointing him Vice-Director of the new Nanking College of Western Learning. Mr. Cheng will probably hand over his seals of office to his successor Mr. Wang Yen-nien, an experienced district magistrate, on the 6th instant. The last named was a couple of years ago acting Mixed Court Magistrate for a short time.

A TERRIFIC storm raged on Wednesday over the Yangtze valley, says the *N. C. D. News* of 4th inst. the worst being between Hankow and Ichang, causing loss of life and great damage to floating property. During the forenoon a gloomy and threatening sky hung over the district and early in the afternoon the wind freshened from the north-east, increased rapidly to a gale, and blew itself out soon after midnight. Scores of junks and native cargo and passenger boats were capsized, or wrecked on the mud banks, and large quantities of merchandise and wreckage were seen drifting down the river, eagerly waited for by hundreds

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE LICENSING SESSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." SIR—Will you kindly allow me space in your valuable paper to do good home-brewed growl. I see by the local papers that there was a special meeting of the Justices of the Peace to consider the application of Mr. James Edwards for a Publican's Licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors in the premises of No. 18 Praya Central, under the sign of Central Hotel. There were present, the Deputy-Superintendent of Police, the Presiding Justice and 8 others; Justices of Peace, 10 in all out of 133 on the lists.

Mr. Gedge, who represented Mr. Edwards, stated that the place was wanted, more for a Billiard Saloon, than a Bar. There were no Police objections to the applicant or to the locality, the matter was then considered in private, neither Mr. Gedge nor Mr. Edwards having the opportunity to hear or know what was said for or against the application, which was refused.

Now, what I want to know is, is this the regular way of doing the business of the Licensing Sessions? If so, the sooner it is altered, the better for all concerned.

Mr. Edwards is an old and respected resident of Hongkong, having been here for the last 30 years, a number of which were spent in the Hongkong Police, from which he retired on an Inspector's pension eleven years ago, and now that he has applied for this Licence, it is refused, for what reasons I fail to see. I wonder if it is because the premises are too close to the Hongkong Hotel and likely to do harm to the business of the same?

If Mr. Edwards had come from Port Said or Trieste with a bevy of fat and fair damsels on his hands and applied for a licence to start a grog shop he might have got it. The shareholders of the Hongkong Hotel. But Mr. Edwards, an old and respected resident of the colony, starting in opposition to the H. K. Hotel is quite a different thing.

Another question I should like to ask. Referring to the motion proposed by Dr. Clark and seconded by Mr. Dyer-Ball, if the Justices are not to be in any way connected with the sale of liquors, why should the Justices of the Peace who are in the liquor trade, be allowed to sit at the Licensing Sessions?

Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of the above.

Yours faithfully,

Hongkong, 7th April, 1899.

JUSTICE.

BATTING THE POLICE AT MALACCA.

According to the Malacca correspondent to the *Singapore Free Press*, the state of the settlement is shown by the following: On Sunday a man gave information at the Pengkalen Balak police station that he and his brother were passing Bukit Beringin on their way to buy fish two ghazils filled with Chinese and Malays droverup. One of the Chinamen fired at his brother and killed him. They then cut off his head, took it with them in the ghari and drove away. This was telephoned into Town and the Ag. Superintendent of Police, Mr. Stewart, Dr. Croucher, and the Chief Inspector at once set out for the scene of the murder, which was about 19 miles from Malacca. They had hardly got out of reach of telephonic communication when a message arrived from Pengkalen Balak stating the report had been proved to be entirely false; but as there is no telephone on the direct road past the 4th mile, nothing could be done to trap the officers, and they had to go the whole way before discovering the falseness of the given information. Before going out, steps were taken as far as possible to stop the ghari with the supposed murderers, and these steps caused the news to be spread over the settlement. It is necessary to add that there is telephonic communication with Pengkalen Balak through Alor Gajah, two sides of a triangle, but none along the coast road, which is the direct road.

SECRET SOCIETY'S CUSTOMS.

In San Francisco there is a Chinese secret society, the laws of which are as strict and unchanging as those of the Medes and Persians. One of the members of this society told some of its secrets—an offence punishable by death. He was to be tried in the usual way before a tribunal of the society. The night of the ordeal was fixed. The culprit was represented by able counsel, but the sentence was death—as was expected. An executioner was called from an adjoining room. He was a strapping big Chinaman, and wore one of those hideous wooden masks that art critics think so beautiful. He carried a double-edged sword fully five feet long. To test the edge he folded a newspaper in eight parts, and the knife went through those eight thicknesses of paper as if it were a bit of butter in summer time. The culprit was put upon his knees, and another Chinaman, also on his knees, faced him and caught the traitor by the queue. He drew the culprit's neck towards him, the sword was pulled over the shoulders, and with one mighty swing the double-edged sword descended. Like a flash it clove the air, and then stopped. A fractional part of an inch separated the sword from the victim's neck. Very, very gently the executioner brought the weapon down until it just touched the traitor's neck. Then, as it is a crime to kill a man in San Francisco, he stopped. He brought the sword to his side again, turned to the judges, and said, "The culprit is dead." The newly executed got to his feet and said something to the judge. The judge did not hear for the culprit was dead. He tried to speak to the Chinamen, who were hurrying from the hall. But he spoke to deaf ears. To all intents and purposes he was a dead man. He made his way into the street, and the first thing that caught his eye was a huge poster proclaiming to all China-town that he had been executed that evening. No one would speak to him, no one look at him—he was a dead man just as dead as if the executioner's sword had in reality descended. For a whole week that man wandered about Chinatown, the posters proclaiming his execution staring him on the face at every turn. Not a crust of bread could he beg—not a mouthful of water. His people knew him as dead—he was past, gone, buried. And so one day he wandered up into the American portion of San Francisco and stole a revolver from a messenger boy, who was showing it to some companions. Then he ran down into Chinatown, sat down on the pavement beneath one of his own death notices, and blew the added brains out of his poor Chinese head.

A LONG DISTANCE RACE BETWEEN TORPEDO-DESTROYERS.

Two Japanese torpedo-destroyers, the *Shinonome* and the *Murakumo*, the former in charge of an English crew and the latter manned by Japanese, are at the present, it would appear, racing in the direction of Yokosuka, in a desperate effort to defeat each other for the honour of their respective countries, for as stated the *Shinonome* is in charge of Englishmen. On hearing of the successful trip of the *Murakumo* from Plymouth to Suez, the builders of the *Shinonome*, according to the *Japan Herald*, obtained permission from the Japanese Government to bring the former to Japan in support of their own employees, with the sportsmanlike object of overtaking the *Murakumo* and beating her in a run to Yokosuka. A crew was thereupon selected and placed under the command of an expert officer. The *Shinonome* left Plymouth on February 19th in pursuit of the *Murakumo* which had then arrived at Suez. The *Shinonome*, of course, did not touch at any intermediate ports, except Gibraltar and Suez, and actually succeeded in overtaking the *Murakumo* at Colombo. She left that port for Singapore on the 18th inst., two days earlier than the *Murakumo*, which had then hardly realised what was in the wind, but is now running after the *Shinonome* as hard as her engines will permit. Of course the real struggle dates from this point, as the *Murakumo*'s Japanese officers were not aware of the pursuit before. The latter certainly enjoy an advantage over their rivals during this stage of the race, as they are familiar with the route, so that an exciting finish will take place before the winning post is reached. The *Shinonome* is terribly disgusted over the preliminary failure, if it may be so called, of the *Murakumo*, which, says our contemporary, negates the honour won by the *Fuji* in its successful trip to Japan. The delay in the voyage of the destroyer is also attributed to the laziness of the officers, who are apparently more anxious to collect souvenirs for their families at the various ports of call, than to indulge in the exertion of racing.—*Kobe Herald*.

FROM GALVESTON TO KOBE.

The arrival of the *Tamba Maru* from Galveston, Texas, with a cargo of American cotton, is an event which deserves to be noticed with a little more care than that usually given to the arrival and departure of ocean-going craft says the *Kobe Herald* of 5th ult. The business world is now familiar with the presence of Japanese steamers on the London, Australian, Seattle and Bombay lines, but the flag of the Rising Sun had not been seen in any port on the Gulf of Mexico until quite recently. No wonder therefore that the *Tamba Maru*'s arrival at Galveston occasioned a considerable stir. Captain Wate informed a *Herald* representative to-day that hundreds of people visited the steamer during her stay in port, the greatest possible interest being taken in what they were pleased to regard as the initiation of a new service. The steamer proceeded direct to Galveston from London, and remained there nineteen days, loading some 14,000 bales of American cotton. A brief outline of her voyage may be of interest. The *Tamba* left Galveston on January 25th and, experiencing moderate weather across the Atlantic, called at Madeira on Feb. 12th. Strong easterly gales were encountered in the Mediterranean for three days, Port Said not being reached until Feb. 23rd. At Port Said 300 tons of coal were taken on board, enabling the vessel to proceed direct to Singapore, which port was made on March 17th. Fine weather was met in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean. Leaving Singapore on the 18th inst., the ship encountered strong N. E. wind, in the China Sea. She came up through Balling-lang Channel and arrived in port here at 7 o'clock last night. The *Tamba* brought up one European passenger and seven Japanese from Singapore.

WEIHAIWEI.

March 21st.

TAX PAYMENT.

The British authorities have issued a proclamation forbidding anyone, Chinese or Foreign, to pay taxes of any kind to the Chinese officials within the leased territory. Regulations as to the payment of taxes are under consideration and will be published later. This step will perhaps bring home conviction to the minds of the natives as to the reality of the British occupation.

ENHANCED PRICES.

Here, as elsewhere in China, apparently, the greatly advanced price of food stuffs weighs heavily on the people. Grain now stands at not far from a hundred per cent. on prices of two or three years ago. Many who formerly fared fully if coarsely now find it hard enough to obtain a meal eked out with roots and seaweed—where the latter is accessible.

KEROSENE & BEAN OIL.

The high price of oil drains the country of its beans, and native economists urge that the crushing of these for oil should be prohibited and the use of kerosene encouraged, thus leaving large quantities of beans for consumption. Kerosene is, roughly, half the price of bean oil, but burns away as fast again, giving, however, a much better light. Kerosene oil is certainly increasing in popular favour. It has had to make way against prejudice, the notion being prevalent that sons would not be born when it was burnt.

ITEMS.

China is the land of moribund incipencies. Parliaments, for example. Some examples to be seen in many villages prescribing punishments for various offences, such as digging up sweet potatoes, uprooting willows by the banks of streams—such as are frequently planted to preserve the banks against freshets, removing bridge planks, and so forth.

The missionary circle shortly bids farewell to Dr. and Mrs. Case who leave immediately for Australia. Dr. Case was the first resident missionary at Weihaiwei, taking up residence here in the year 1892.

POSTAL MATTERS.

The new Chinese I. P. O. is now in full swing in the city under the management of Mr. J. J. Peel, detached from the Chefoo staff. Whatever advantages may accrue to residents from its establishment will be fully paid for the new regulations providing that whilst Postal Union letters, like domestic, will be delivered free, all other mail matter from abroad will be charged full domestic rates in addition. Parcels outward, limited to 5 lbs., and all parcels from abroad will be charged for at the rate of twenty cents per pound. It is to be hoped the British authorities will shortly establish a Post Office on the Island. As matters stand we residents in a British possession, have to depend on a foreign post-office for the transmission of our mails to and from the mother country, and must submit to a heavy tax for the above convenience.—*N. C. D. News Cor.*

THE OPENING UP OF CHINA.

MR. PRITCHARD MORGAN'S MISSION.

Mr. W. Pritchard Morgan, M. P., who arrived in London on February 5th, after a visit to China lasting eleven months, was interviewed immediately on his arrival by Reuters' representative. Asked first regarding the objects of his mission, Mr. Pritchard Morgan said—

"I do not feel justified in discussing all the objects I had in view. One of the results of my mission is that the great and rich province of Szechuan is to be opened to the world."

In reply to a question as to the nature of the concessions he had secured in Szechuan, Mr. Pritchard Morgan said—

"In the ordinary sense of the word I have no concession at all. When the Chinese Government, in 1896, telegraphed for me to go out and advise them as to the opening up of the mineral resources of China, my first recommendation was that no concessions at all should be granted. I have been persistently advocated the creation of an Imperial Mining Department at Peking, such as exists in Australia and America, to control the mines of the whole empire, and I urged that Provincial Departments of Mines should be organised under the direct control of the central authorities, with the special object of securing uniformity of mining laws."

"At the end of October negotiations with regard to the province of Szechuan resulted in a manner satisfactory to myself, as well as to the central and provincial authorities and the landed gentry. The Imperial Government then decided upon creating a Provincial Department of Mines for Szechuan, that province being the largest in area, and reputed to be the richest in mineral deposits. I was appointed Foreign, Financial, Legal, and Technical Administrator of Szechuan, and the contracts were duly signed and sealed on Nov. 23rd. Legal formalities being completed, I left Peking at the beginning of December."

"Immediately the fact of my appointment became known the French Minister entered a protest on the grounds of monopoly and interference with Treaty rights. He further urged that my appointment was against the spirit of the declaration made by Lord Salisbury to Baron de Courcel with regard to the provinces of Szechuan and Yunnan. This delayed me in Shanghai until January 1st. The French protests were, however, firmly met by the Chinese Government. The French Minister was the only one who did not practically approve of my recommendations. Russia, on the contrary, raised no objection, nor had any of the Powers any reasonable ground for objection. "Everything," continued Mr. Pritchard Morgan, "is now complete, and the final rules and regulations for the working of the province of Szechuan were signed a few days ago."

HEAD SCARE IN MALACCA.

BLOOD-THIRSTY SCHOOL-INSPECTOR.

A Malacca correspondent to the *Singapore Free Press* this writes:—Three murders having occurred within a month, and the whole of the Settlement is in an excited condition, as it is fully believed that the government are taking heads, and it is said they are required for some work in Siam. School-children will not go to school; syces and jinrikisha coolies refuse to go out of town after dark; and bullock cart-drivers will not go along the country roads singly. On the Sub-Inspector of schools going to examine a school, the former few children present. On making inquiry he discovered that a rumour had got about the kampong that he had come for 20 heads, hence the small attendance.

NOTANDA.

CALENDAR.

APRIL.

Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1893.

Barometer	29.958
Thermometer	59.7
Humidity	86.6
Rainfall	7.58

TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.

Barometer	30.20	30.10
Thermometer	62	64
Humidity	81	73
Rainfall	—	—

TO-DAY.

Saturday, 8th April, 1899.

Chinese—28th of 2nd moon of 25th year of Kwang-sai.

Sun—Rises	Chr. 6min.
Set	Chr. 55min.
High water—Morning	Chr. 55min.
Afternoon	Chr. 55min.
Low water—Morning	Chr. 25min.
Afternoon	Chr. 33min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1842—Lorenzo de Medici died.
1818—King of Denmark born.
1863—\$1,000 reward offered by the Hongkong Government for information leading to the arrest of foreigners employed on piratical craft in the neighbourhood.

1896—Peking-Normandie collision at Shanghai; the former badly damaged and beached.

1897—The King of Siam left Bangkok for England.

TO-MORROW.

Sunday, 9th April, 1899.

Chinese—29th of 2nd moon of 25th year of Kwang-sai.

Sun—Rises	Chr. 6min.
Set	Chr. 55min.
High water—Morning	Chr. 55min.
Afternoon	Chr. 55min.
Low water—Morning	Chr. 25min.
Afternoon	Chr. 33min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1626—Lord Bacon died.
1834—Siege of Sebastopol re-opened.
1865—Surrender of Lee and his army to General Grant.

1897—Greek irregulars gave battle to the Turks at Metsovo.

CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral—Communion, 7 a.m., Matins, 11 a.m., Evensong, 5.45 p.m.
Roman Catholic Cathedral—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9.30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.

Union Church—Services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
German Bethesda Chapel, West Point—Morning Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
St. Francis Church, Wanchai—Mass (Chin.), 6 a.m. (Port), 7.30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road—Morning Service (English), 9 a.m.
St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point—Mass, 8 a.m.

Wesleyan Methodist Church—Services, 10.30 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.
St. Peter's Seamen's Church—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE.

Indian (*Chalydra*) 10th inst.
French (*Saluste*) 11th inst.
American (*Hongkong Maru*) 14th inst.
Australian (*Kauka Maru*) 17th inst.
Canadian (*Empress of India*) 19th inst.
American (*China*) 22nd inst.

THE N. P. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Monmouthshire*, sailed from Portland for Japan and Hongkong on the 3rd instant.

WE are informed that the Austrian Lloyd's S. N. Co.'s steamer *Marquis Raguchem*, left Singapore for this port yesterday, the 7th inst.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Karuga Maru* (Australian Line) left Thursday Island for this port yesterday, the 7th, and is expected to arrive here on the 17th instant.

WE are informed that the Messageries Maritimes Co.'s steamer *Saluste*, with the next French Mail, left Saigon for this port at midnight yesterday, the 7th instant.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK RETURNS.	
<i>Isla de Cuba</i>	at Kowloon Dock.
<i>Isla de Luzon</i>	" "
<i>Hui</i>	" "
<i>Henry Failing</i>	" "
<i>Chitlagong</i>	" "
<i>Haiting</i>	" "
<i>H.M.S. Whiting</i>	" "
<i>U.S.S. Bennington</i>	" "
<i>Columbia</i>	" "
<i>D. Juan d'Austria</i>	" Cosmopolitan "
<i>Pkru Chom Klao</i>	" "

PASSED THE CANAL.

Outward—7th March—*Afridi*, Catania, 10th March—*Bendler*, Undanated, 14th March—*Ask*, 17th March—*Gluac*, 21st March—*Shinduf*, 24th March—*Indus*, Olterspool, 28th March—*Heidelberg*, Peking, 31st April—*Ben-luvers*, Hector, Vindobona, Kunsang, Siberia, Telenia.

Homeward—5th April—*Bendler*, Dardanelles, 8th, Sydney.

Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil, with Hypophosphites—Specially adapted to all conditions where the tissues are wasting away from inability to digest and assimilate ordinary food. The combined virtues of the Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites produce a marked effect in such cases. They restore the wasted tissues, create an appetite, make new blood, heal the inflammation of the throat and lungs, and increase the flesh. In short they form the finest combined food and medicine that can be given the invalid. Any Chemist can supply it. Sole Agents for Hongkong and the Empire of China:—Watkins & Co., Hongkong.—*Advt.*

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAIMUN,"

Captain Bathurst, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 9th instant, at Daylight.
For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1899. [473a]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"PYRRHUS,"

Captain Batt, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 17th instant.
For Freight, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 4th April, 1899. [463a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE VIA MANILA.

THE Company's Steamship

"TSINAN,"

Captain Ramsay, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 18th instant, at Noon.
The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engines. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the Supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light. N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA are available for return by the Steamers of the EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN S.S. Co. and vice versa.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1899. [465a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA.

THE Company's Steamship

"TSINAN,"

Captain Ramsay, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 18th instant, at Noon.
The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engines.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light. For Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1899. [467a]

UNITED STATES AND CHINA-JAPAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"CANTANIA,"

Captain Miller, will be despatched as above on or about the 8th May.
For Freight, apply to CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1899. [475a]

Entertainments.

FRENCH COMIC OPERA COMPANY.

C. DARON, Directeur, 18me Annee.

CITY HALL—ST. ANDREW'S HALL, MONDAY, 10 April, 1899, 9 hours.

Under the Patronage of His Excellency Sir HENRY BLAKE, K.C.M.G.

GRAND PERFORMANCE, to be given by:

Mlle G. VASTI, Mlle J. LORIG, Ire Chanteuse d'opérette, Ire Dugaron.

Mr. C. DARON, le Comique populaire, Mlle M. SAVART, E. DANENBERG, Chanteuse à diction, Pianiste.

Artistes des principaux Theatres de Paris. LE GRAND SUCCES.

Les Pantins de Violette,

Opéra Comique en 1 acte.

MUSIQUE DE MR. A. ADAM.

Alcôfribas Mr. C. DARON; Pierrot, Mlle J. LORIG; Violette, Mlle VASTI.

Précédée by

A Grand Musical Performance

By the whole Company.

LES PARISIENNES!!!

Grande Polka, chantée, par

Mlles VASTI—LORIG et SAVART.

On commencera par

PAOLA et PIETRO

Opérette en 1 acte

Musique de Paul Henric

PAOLA, Mlle VASTI—PIETRO, Mlle LORIG.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:

RESERVED SEATS.....\$3

STALLS.....2

Tickets at ROBINSON PIANO Co.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1899. [459a]

AILE DE LA SAINTE ENFANCE.

For the Benefit of the

FRENCH CONVENT.

A GARDEN FETE

AND

'FANCY FAIR,'

Will be held on

</

